

Message Text

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63

ACTION EUR-25

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, UR

SUBJ: VOA TAKEN HEAD-ON BY SOVIET NEWSPAPER

USIA FOR IEE, IBS

1. VOA ANNOUNCER VIKTOR FRANTSUZOV IS QUOTED AT SOME LENGTH IN AN UNUSUALLY STRAIGHTFORWARD CRITIQUE IN MOSKOVSKIY KOMSOMOLETS SEP. 5. DESPITE TYPICAL TENOR OF OVERLINE, "LIE ON SHORT WAVE," WRITER L. KRYUKOV GIVES FRANTSUZOV'S UNDATED TALE ABOUT HIS 20-YEAR OLD SON FINDING PART-TIME WORK IN A DEPARTMENT STORE ALMOST HALF THE SPACE IN A TWO-COLUMN ARTICLE AND QUOTES FIVE SENTENCES.

2. TO REFUTE FRANTSUZOV ASSERTION THAT WORK EASY TO FIND, KRYUKOV REFERS TO DETAILED "LESS OPTIMISTIC" BUSINESS WEEK REPORTS (ALSO UNDATED) AS EVIDENCE OF GROWTH OF UNEMPLOYMENT, ESPECIALLY AMONG YOUTH, AND CONTINUED BLEAK PROSPECTS. CONCLUSION IS THAT BEHIND "PROPAGANDA GLOSS" SUPPLIED BY VOA, REALITY "APPEARS PRETTY SAD."

3. COMMENT: WHILE ARTICLE MAY BE CURIOSITY IN PERIOD OF RENEWED CRITICISM OF VOA AND ACCELERATED ATTACKS ON RL AND RFE, FACT OF DETAILING VOA BROADCAST SOUNDS
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RELATIVELY OPEN NOTE. IT INDICATES SOME WILLINGNESS TO TAKE ON FOREIGN BROADCASTS IN MORE PUBLIC TERMS AS IN

RECENT TREATMENT OF DOMESTIC SORE POINTS LIKE DISSIDENTS.
(ARTICLE BEING POUCHED TO IEE.)
DUBS

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